

Message Text

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ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25

NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-13 OIC-04 AEC-11 ACDA-19

OMB-01 RSR-01 /153 W

----- 109332

R 161203 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9247

INFO SECDEF/ WASHDC

MBFR CAPITALS 582

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR/ SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USDEL SALT TWO II

AMEMBASSY ATHENS UNN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE UNN

AMEMBASSY MADRID UNN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA UNN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UNN

AMEMBASSY LISBON UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 5024

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FROM US REP MBFR

1. GROUP DISCUSSION BEGAN BY REVIEWING A REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE
SUBGROUP ON A COMMON FACILITY. THE SUBGROUP HAD DETERMINED THAT
AT

NEWLY CONSTRUCTED APARTMENT BUILDING OFFERED THE BEST PROSPECT OF
A BUILDING LARGE ENOUGH FOR NATO'S NEEDS, AND HAD WORKED OUT A PRO-
POSAL OF HOW IT MIGHT BE USED AND WHAT THE COSTS WOULD BE. CHAIR-
MAN (CANADIAN REP GRANDE) POINTED OUT THAT WHILE GROUP COULD NOT
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DECIDE IN FAVOR OF THIS BUILDING, IT COULD EITHER DECIDE TO PUT THE PROPOSAL TO THE VARIOUS NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OR CONCLUDE THAT THIS PROPOSAL WAS A NONSTARTER.

2. US REP OBSERVED THAT A COMMON FACILITY WOULD MOST LIKELY INVOLVE HIGHER COSTS, AND CERTAINLY GREATER COMPLICATIONS, THAT SEPARATE NATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, AND THAT PROPER OBJECTIONS OF FINANCE AUTHORITIES WOULD ONLY BE MET IF IT WERE A REALLY COMMON FACILITY, WITH SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS IN ENHANCED ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY. HE REQUESTED THEREFORE THAT THE GROUP BE POLLED ON WHETHER THEY BELIEVED THEIR COUNTRIES WOULD BE INTERESTED.

3. EACH MEMBER OF THE GROUP EXPRESSED HIMSELF IN FAVOR OF THE PRINCIPLE OF A COMMON FACILITY, BUT MANY DID SO WHILE INDICATING STRONG RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE BUILDING IN QUESTION. UK ACTING REP (JOHNSON) INDICATED THAT THE UK HAD DECIDED TO HOUSE AT LEAST PART OF ITS DELEGATION IN THEIR EMBASSY.

4. FRG ACTING REP (HOFMANN) NOTED THAT THE SUBGROUP HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NEW OFFICE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED IN VIENNA PRIOR TO MID 1975 REPEAT 1975, AND THAT NO EXISTING OFFICE BUILDING HAD ENOUGH SPACE AVAILABLE. THE QUESTION THEREFORE WAS WHETHER TO GO INTO THIS PARTICULAR BUILDING. UK ACTING REP SUGGESTED THAT IN THAT CASE, IF THIS BUILDING WAS UNSATISFACTORY THE GROUP SHOULD LOGICALLY DROP THE IDEA OF A COMMON FACILITY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF ALL DELEGATIONS.

5. GROUP WAS THEREFORE POLLED ON THEIR REACTIONS TO THIS BUILDING. DANISH ACTING REP (BULOW) STATED THAT HE WAS NOT INTERESTED IN AN APARTMENT HOUSE WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE CONVERTED TO OFFICES. FRG ACTING REP OBJECTED THAT BECAUSE THE BUILDING WAS NOT DESIGNED AS AN OFFICE BUILDING, MUCH OF THE SPACE WOULD BE UNUSABLE. CONSEQUENTLY IT MIGHT BE CROWDED EVEN THOUGH THEORETICALLY LARGE ENOUGH, AND THE COST PER USABLE SQUARE METER WOULD BE HIGH. FURTHER, HE DOUBTED THAT SECRETARIES COULD BE OBTAINED IF THE ROOMS IN WHICH THEY HAD TO WORK HAD NO WINDOWS. GREEK ACTING REP (PHILON) FAVORED BUILDING. ITALIAN ACTING REP (TALIANI) FELT HIMSELF UNABLE TO EXPRESS AN OPINION. NETHERLANDS ACTING REP (KORT) AGREED WITH FRG ACTING REP. TURKISH ACTING REP (UNAN) WAS IN FAVOR. UK ACTING REP WAS AGAINST. US REP WOULD RECOMMEND ACCEPTANCE FOR REASONS OF ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY, BUT QUESTIONED WHETHER HIS AUTH-
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ORITIES WOULD ACCEPT IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. BELGIAN ACTING REP FELT THAT BUILDING WAS TOO BIG. CANADIAN REP WOULD GO ALONG, BUT ONLY FOR REASONS OF ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY.

6. CHAIRMAN NOTED AGREEMENT IN GROUP THAT THIS BUILDING WOULD NOT DO, AND THAT SINCE IT WAS THE ONLY SUFFICIENTLY LARGE PRO-

PERTY LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE, THE IDEA OF A BUILDING TO HOUSE ALL
OF EACH DELEGATION WOULD BE DROPPED. GROUP THEN TURNED TO
EXAMINA-
TION OF A SMALLER JOINT FACILITY.

7. POLL OF GROUP DETERMINED THAT THERE WOULD BE INTEREST IN A
BUILDING WITH SOME 65-70 " UNITS" OF 15 SQUARE METERS, WHICH WOULD
HOUSE THE COMMON FACILITIES, THE NATO STAFF, A CONFERENCE ROOM,
AND A SMALL SUITE OF OFFICES FOR EACH DELEGATION. THE GROUP THERE-
FORE COMMISSIONED THE BELGIAN ACTING REP TO MAKE FURTHER INQUIRIES
ABOUT THE BUILDING ON THE SCHOTTENRING WHICH THE AUSTRIAN AUTHOR-
ITIES HAD SUGGESTED IN MAY, WHICH WAS THE RIGHT SIZE BUT OF UN-
KNOWN COST. THE SUBGROUP ON A COMMON FACILITY WAS ASKED TO SEARCH
FOR OTHER POSSIBLE BUILDINGS OF THIS SIZE. HUMES

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